



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/650,619	08/28/2003	Kazuhiko Arai	16996	8315
23389	7590	03/07/2006	EXAMINER	
SCULLY SCOTT MURPHY & PRESSER, PC			LU, TONY W	
400 GARDEN CITY PLAZA			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
SUITE 300			2878	
GARDEN CITY, NY 11530				

DATE MAILED: 03/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

H.A

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/650,619	ARAI ET AL.	
	Examiner Tony Lu	Art Unit 2878	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 December 2005.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) 13-18,20,21,23-25 is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-12,19 and 22 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 08/28/2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This is in response to the amendment filed on 12/21/2005.

Claim Objections

Claim 13 is objected to because of the following informalities:

As for claim 13, in line 2, further used “an imaging system” makes it unclear to how many imaging systems are being used.

Appropriate corrections and clarifications are required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-12,19 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsuneo JP2001082941 in view of Dainis et al US4923155.

With respect to claims 1,19 and 22, Tsuneo disclose a calibration pattern system having a first form(fig.4, element 55) photographed by an imaging system to acquire an image for obtaining correction information of the imaging system, the system comprising: a calibration pattern(56) comprising a predetermined pattern(see fig.4) for obtaining correction information of the imaging system; and supporting members(55a, 55b,55c) having a surface formed by three-dimensionally arranged planes, a predetermined one of the surfaces of the supporting members including the calibration

pattern formed thereon, wherein normals of the predetermined surfaces constituting the supporting members are arranged orthogonally to one another.

Tsuneo fails to teach the calibration pattern system can selectively set to a second form for other purposes after the correction information is obtained in the first form.

Dainis et al disclose a target support system for calibration of camera and/or imaging devices teach calibration structures such as cubes, tetrahedrons and joined rods can be folded and/or disassembled as a second form for transportation and/or storage(read col.1 lines 19-68).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Tsuneo with Dainis by having the calibration pattern system selective set to a second form by folding and/or disassembling the components of the system in order to provide convenient transportation and/or storage purposes of the system.

With respect to claim 2 and 3, per the above discussion, the proposed system of Tsuneo and Dainis et al lacks a clear teaching of a volume occupied by the first form is larger than that occupied by the second form.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the proposed system of Tsuneo and Dainis et al by having the volume occupied by the second form smaller than that occupied by the first form in order to further promote the ease of transportation and/or storage of the second form.

With respect to claims 4 and 5, per the above discussion, the proposed system of Tsuneo and Dainis et al lacks a clear teaching that in the second form, the predetermined surfaces constituting the supporting members are arranged roughly in parallel with one another.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the proposed system of Tsuneo and Dainis et al by arranging and/or folding and/or disassembling the components of the system in desired manners in order to provide a more flexible storage and/or transportation utilities of the second form accordingly to different environment conditions. Further citations in claim 5 regarding arrangement of the supporting members in the second form would have been obvious for similar reasons set forth above.

With respect to claims 6 and 7, per the above discussion, the proposed system of Tsuneo and Dainis et al lack a clear teaching of protection sections.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the proposed system of Tsuneo and Dainis et al by supplying protection sections and/or coatings and/or protection mechanisms in order to provide desired protections against any environmental damages such as erosions to the components of the system.

Further citations in claim 7 regarding spacer sections would have been obvious for similar reasons set forth above.

With respect to claims 8,9 and 11, per the above discussion, the proposed system of Tsuneo and Dainis et al lack a clear teaching of connection sections which

can separate and rejoin the supporting member while maintain connections between the supporting member.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the proposed system of Tsuneo and Dainis et al by supplying desired connection sections in order to provide desired arrangement and/or configuration of folding and/or disassembling of the components of the system.

With respect to claims 10 and 12, per the above discussion, the proposed system of Tsuneo and Dainis et al lack a clear teaching of fixing tools configured to fix relative positions of the predetermined surfaces of the supporting members.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the proposed system of Tsuneo and Dainis et al by utilizing fixing tools to fix supporting members in position while performing the calibration activities in order to ensure the accuracy of the calibration performed by the system.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 13-18,20,21 and 23-25 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art fails to teach a calibration pattern unit photographed by an imaging system to acquire an image for obtaining correction information of the imaging system, among other features, having supporting members with calibration pattern formed thereon having a surface by at least one of a three-dimensionally arranged plane(s) and curved surface(s).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tony Lu whose telephone number is 5712728448. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00am- 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Georgia Epps can be reached on 5712722328. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Georgia Epps
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800